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Issued in the interest of corn-borer control conducted by the United States Department of Agriculture is cooperation with the State departments of agriculture and State agricultural colleges in New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, and Indiana.

110. 37

Washington, D. C.

April 21, 1928

Jurnell Bill Passes House

The Purnell bill authorizing an expenditure of $\sqrt[6]{7}$,000,000 to control the corn berer was passed by the House of Representatives Wednesday April 11, without amendment. The bill is now before the Senate for consideration.

The purpose of the Purnell bill according to a statement drawn up by those interested in the bill is to retard as much as possible spread of the corn borer. The plan contemplates compensating the farmer within such area or areas as shall be determined by the Secretary of Agriculture as necessary to retard such spread, for extra labor necessary in the clean-up of the cornfields and for the State and Federal forces to clean up areas which the farmers fail to handle. It is understood that such a clean-up to retard spread would begin at the thinly infested border and would extend as far back into the more heavily infested area as the money would permit.

The Furnell bill would provide for a florough clean-up during the fall of 1928 and season of 1929 beginning with the thinly infested order area and would permit an early announcement of regulations covering the infested area and protect the interests of the farmers in the area. It includes a provision for a clean-up in the fall months. At that season some of the most effective work can be done in properly harvesting the crop, cleaning lands subject to flood, and preparing lands for wheat and other crops.







The first Ohio plowing contest held near Huntsville, Logan County, in the interests of better plowing for corn-borer control, proved a huge success. About 2,000 farmers, their families and friends from the surrounding countryside came to watch the expert plowmen match their skill. The contest was in charge of Walter Bluck, county agricultural agent in Logan County, and R. D. Bardon, agricultural engineering extension specialist.

Only farmers were allowed to compete, commercial outfits being debarred from participation. There were three divisions of competition: One for tractor-drawn plows, one for horse-drawn plows operated by young men under 20, and one for horse-drawn plows operated by men over 20. No specific requirements were laid down for the horse-drawn implements, all types of machines being allowed.

Frank Wish, a young farmer 21 years of age won the sweepstakes, taking the first prize of \$35, a gold medal given by the Logan County Farm Pureou, and a large silver cup awarded by the Ohio Agricultural Extension Service. The cup will be held by Mr. Wish for one year and put up for competition again next year. The winner scored 85 out of a possible 100 points.

Each contestant was required to lay two "backs" and finish one dead furrow, all equivalent to about two and half rounds of plowing. The rules also specified that each contestant must plow not less than 5 inches nor more than 8 inches deep. Allowing a maximum time for each kind of plowing outfit, the judges scored mainly on the quality of plowing.

Fifteen points were allowed for a straight furrow and 25 for conformation of the furrow, hinging upon smoothness and even height of the crown. If weeds were well covered the plowman was given another 15 points; 20 points for furrows uniform in depth and width; 15 points for backfurrows low and even, and 10 points for backfurrows shallow and clean.

The use of covering chains or wires, the set of the plow, the number of horses and the type of hitch, were left to the discretion of the plowman. Judges for the contest were: C.O. Reed and J.A. Slipher of Ohio State University, and L.D. Musselman, Logan County farmer.

The much-denounced borer has revived interest in good plowing, an art held in higher esteem a generation ago than now. Once upon a time neighbors vied with one another to see who could plow the straightest furrow. With the advent of the tractor, interest in straigh, furrows and thorough plowing was subordinated to interest in how much plowing could be done in a day. Chiefly because of the arrival of the burer, and the importance of clean plowing to control that mest, Ohio farmers are interested now in combining thoroughness with speed in plowing.



POWELL EXPLAINS SITUATION TO MICHIGAN FARMERS



Every farmer in the corn-borer infested area of Michigan, has had the corn-borer situation put to him squarely in a letter from Herbert E. Powell, commissioner, State department of agriculture. Mr. Powell explained the regulations in force to control the corn borer, the quarantine and clean-up requirements and also the whole corn-borer situation. A few extracts from Mr. Powell's letter follow:

"In view of the fact that no Federal appropriation for the payment of farmers for extra work performed in the control of the European corn borer will be made for the year 1928, the Federal and State officials have decided that the only thing left for them to do is to handle the situation in such a manner as to get the best results with the limited amount of money available from the State appropriation.

"While this department regrets the fact that the farmers are not going to be reimbursed for the extra labor performed, nevertheless, we realize that the infestation, especially in some counties in this territory, has reached such proportions as to make it necessary, for the preservation of the corn crop, to have a thorough clean-up.

"It is hoped that we can all work together this year and do a good job in the control of the European corn borer."

CARTURICHT TO STUDY PARASITES IN ORIENT

W.B. Cartwright, an entomologist of the United States Department of Agriculture will sail on May 11 from San Francisco for Yokohama, Japan, to take up his search for parasites effective in controlling the corn borer. Mr. Cartwright will carry on his work in Japan, Korea, China, Siberia, Formosa, the Philippine Islands, Guam, and India, where the corn borer is now established.

Mr. Cartwright is an entomologist of considerable experience. Before taking up this work on the corn lorer in the Crient, he was in charge of the field laboratory, Cerval and Forage Insects, Bureau of Entomology, located in Sagramento, Calif.



> STRAIGHT AHEAD IN NEW YORK

The spring corn-borer campaign in New York is going ahead actively. Ten-minute radio talks are being given over WGR, Buffalo every Monday and Wednesday by the State specialists and corn-borer workers. On April 13, Russell Hill, special corn-borer agent for the Indian reservations gave a talk on the corn borer to the Indians in the infested area speaking in the native Iroquois. The corn-borer exhibit truck is still touring through the western part of the State and is arousing considerable interest among the farmers, while the information service has been more than busy preparing press articles reporting the various corn-borer activities and again telling the farmers the menace presented by the European corn borer and the best methods of overcoming this menace.

A PRESS RELEASE FROM NEW YORK



To-morrow is Friday the 13th.

Don't walk under a ladder; don't let any black cat cross your path, and don't fail to tune in on WGR, Buffalo, at 12.30 p.m., and hear Russell Hill, a Seneca Indian, deliver the first address in the Indian tongue in the history of radio.

COURTESY FROM SCOUTS

Last year 25,104 fields were scouted with very few complaints from the farmers, speaking well for the care, courtesy, and tact of the scouts.

The first item in the rules and regulations for scouting crews given to all scouts engaged in corn-borer work is - -

"Courteous and considerate treatment of employees, property owners, and tenants is required of all men engaged in corm-borer control work."

This rule is impressed upon the men and strictly enforced by those in charge of corn-borer control work. When a corn borer is found upon a farm the farmer is told about it and shown the specimen as soon as the scouts have found the borer.

The scouts are told not to strip open ears of corn haphazardly but only when there appears to be evidence that a borer is within.



BORER AS LIVESTOCK FACTOR

(From a Michigan press release)

Another reason for Michigan's interest in corn-borer control and retardation of the apread is given by L. E. Osmer, manager of the Michigan Elevator Exchange:

"The corn crop was short in Michigan last fall," Osmer says.
"A year ago in February, only 40 cars were purchased through the exchange, while this year 140 cars were bought. Even when the State's production is up to normal, millions of dollars are spent each winter by feeders for corn imported from Illinois, Indiana, and Iowa.

"The State is vitally interested in prevention of the spread of the corn borer. The establishment of the pest in the great com-producing States will mean an increased price for corn and will result in greater feeding costs. If the borer is not controlled, the effect will be felt not only by feeders of livestock, but also by country elevators in which many farmers are interested."

EXHIBIT TRUCKS

The corn-borer exhibit trucks touring the infested area have met with an enthusiastic reception wherever they were shown. These trucks were built and equipped at corn-borer control headquarters, Toledo, Ohio, and show the life history of the corn borer, the damage it does to the cornfields and how to control it. Each truck is in charge of specialists from the State agricultural college to explain the exhibit.

In Indiana, 30,000 people stopped to look at the exhibit truck and hear the story of the borer. In Ohio, 14,478 persons over 12 years of age went through the truck. This was an average of 159 at each place. The truck in Michigan visited eight counties and made 110 stops. A total of 5,406 people saw the exhibit there and talked with the attendants. Western New York is now the scene of action and from the picture looks as though it were successful there too.

On the following page the corn-borer exhibit truck at work in New York and Ohio is pictured.

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CORN BORER EXHIBIT TRUCK





